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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CASTEN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 19, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable SEAN CASTEN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, bless these next weeks that lie ahead of us. In this time when resources are highly contested and the premise on which decisions are made are highly charged, grant us Your infinite wisdom and careful guidance.

Give us Your vision that we would keep our eyes straight ahead, our gaze fixed before us, that our priority would be what You would have us see: Your perfect will for us and for this country.

Then enable us to give careful thought to the paths our feet must take, that our steps would be firmly planted in Your truth.

Protect us from being derailed by foolish impulse or fall wayward from our misjudgment.

But cause us to be steadfast in our ways, that we would align with Your will, and our certainty would be grounded in faithfulness to You.

Lord, our sight, our walk, our actions, and decisions are so easily influenced by whim and worry. May this day, we remain committed to You.

In Your sovereign name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. NORTON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

D.C. IS MORE THAN READY FOR STATEHOOD

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I come to report significant progress on D.C. statehood and to thank my colleagues for passing my bill to make the District the 51st State. I especially thank Senator GARY PETERS for holding a Senate hearing on the bill in June, only the second hearing in Senate history.

I particularly appreciate the work of Senator TOM CARPER, the lead Senate sponsor, for a record 45 Senate cosponsors.

These efforts in the House and Senate have resulted in 54 percent of the

American people now supporting D.C. statehood.

D.C. is more than ready—indeed is overqualified—for statehood. Residents pay more Federal taxes per capita than any State, more taxes than 21 States, and has a larger gross domestic product than 17 States.

The District of Columbia is well on its way to becoming our 51st State.

AMERICAN BUSINESSES AND FAMILIES ARE AT RISK

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, at the grocery store and at the gas pump American families are facing a harsh new reality. Rising prices have effectively created both a tax hike and a pay cut for our workers.

At the height of summer, families are now paying 3 percent more for fruits and vegetables, 9 percent more for milk, and 18 percent more for bacon.

Instead of addressing this crisis, President Biden and liberals in Congress are doing what they always do, spending money that we don't have and asking taxpayers to cover the difference.

Another \$3.5 trillion spending bill is not what our country needs.

Passing the Green New Deal under another name will not help American families.

In Pennsylvania, inflation has harsh consequences on our local businesses like Guy Chemical in Somerset County who has seen a 30 to 50 percent rise in costs.

Let's make it clear: President Biden's failed policies are putting American businesses and American families at risk.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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